



Landscape Advisory Committee

Minutes of Meeting Held January 20, 2016

Members Present: Ellen Alster (late), Jim Bennett, Christina Bickelmann, Elizabeth Davison, Roger Howlett, Jackie Lyle, Deborah Munoz-Chacon, Ron van Ommeren

Members Absent: Katie Gannon, Les Shipley

Guests / Staff Present: Mary K. Slachter, Quality Tree Service; Irene Ogata, OIP

1. CALL TO ORDER

- Meeting called to order at 3:30 p.m. by D. Munoz-Chacon.

2. Minutes for Approval:

- December 9, 2015 minutes: Motion by E.Davison to approve minutes, second by R.Howlett. No discussion/corrections. Approved by all present; 7-0 vote. [action]

3. Reports – P.Rosenboom - absent

- Continue to next week

4. New Discussion:

- A. Block 175 – will reschedule

5. Old Discussion

A. Member Nomination Subcommittee – D.Munoz & J.Lyle

- 5 potential candidates; 6th candidate turned in application today at meeting: Juan Barba, Nick Shipley, Anthony Sarah, Laura Mielcarek, Jared McKinley and Mary Slachter.
 - 1 position currently vacant = Educator
 - Other positions that will be vacated in March 2016: (a) Business and (b) Neighborhood Representative
- As Educator position currently vacant, discussion to recommend Peter Warren nomination:
 - Motion to nominate Peter Warren for Educator position by J. Lyle, second by R.van Ommeran; approved by all present; 7-0 vote [action]
- Next step: send all 6 applications to LAC members; discussion regarding previous two applicants on file, they do not fit positions to be vacated; will invite 5 applicants to February meeting for 5 minute interviews/conversation
- Discussion with applicant Mary Slachter: introduced self and gave background of work; does not need to return next week as part of interview/meeting other applicants

B. Reconsideration of LAC meeting date: consider moving back to 2nd Wednesday; discussion, currently this seems fine; no action.

C. Update Utility Pole Color – E.Alster: recapped meeting had with TEP engineer and attorney; TEP stated ability to change color if jurisdiction willing to pay for differential cost; showed examples around town of different utility pole colors; J.Bennet brought up issue of double poles – new pole and adjacent old pole that only carries communication lines; J.Bennett will follow-up with TEP and report back to LAC; discussion; no action.

D. IPM Update – I.Ogata: continue to work with P.Warren; working on staff survey to learn more about department practices; and will send out. No discussion.

E. Urban Landscape Manager Update: Potential discussion topics with City Manager next month:

- landscape and maintenance budget (connect to economic development; be business-friendly and appealing); if installing landscape, need to budget for the maintenance
- allowing TDOT to keep to their maintenance schedule (vs pulled off schedule to do special requests by Council members);
- design guidelines – need something specific; potential discussion about disconnect of review process and implementation not addressing issues of utility poles, cultural resources, etc
- securing landscape architect position in TDOT (GWittwer's position)

Other updates:

- TDOT developing training courses with Ag Extension;
- OIP moving into Planning & Development Services Dept

Discussions, no action.

6. Chairperson's Summary of current events:

- Tree & Shade Summit in Phoenix: March 9
- La Cocina – 2/2, 10% proceeds go to SABCC
- Beat Back Buffelgrass 1/31 – can sign up for a sign online

7. Call to Audience:

- None

8. Call for Future Agenda Items - January

- Follow-up on TEP issue

9. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm.